

DATE: May 14, 2021

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SUBJECT: Friday Update

All,

A huge week!

- Today begins the summer pilot program for the Auburn Confluence Shuttle, a new fixed route transit service into the canyon and main trailheads. As we work to maximize the ridership, under the leadership of Mengil Dean, we are working to reinvent Auburn Transit. The new aspects will be the Confluence Shuttle AND an on demand system (like Uber/Lyft) which will happen in July.
- The Planning Commission will consider the final drafts of the Housing Element and Safety Element at their meeting on Tuesday evening. The previous drafts have been approved by both the State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and Cal OES respectively. The drafts establish goals in each area and will help us satisfy key State mandates. To see the entire packet, go here:
https://auburn.granicus.com/DocumentViewer.php?file=auburn_dda75419d1a6f7962baf6b956e9f1401.pdf&view=1
- We in the final interview phase of the Administrative Services Director recruitment. We interviewed the final three applicants and will begin the background on the final one beginning today.
- Just sayin..... I have rarely seen a City Council that is working harder for their community as I have this week with our elected leaders! A 10:00 (five hours) City Council Meeting followed by multiple meetings this week on planning, transportation, economic development and the trail museum along with pushing our interests in media, recruiting businesses and throughout the region. The appreciation is knowing the amount of homework each brings to each meeting, their tenacity in representing the City's interest, the very "plain talk" in navigating issues and ultimately their willingness to listen to a variety perspectives and angles as we work to find solutions to big picture items. They definitely earned the pennies they receive in stipend this week. Well done!
- Mayor Matt Spokely and I met with representatives of a major lifestyle sports equipment company which is interested in locating a key part of their operation to Auburn. A really good meeting and a group which would thrive in the Auburn culture. Stay tuned!
- Tonight is the first "Cruise Night" in Downtown. I am predicting a large turnout, so get there early, practice social distancing and get your gear head on!
- Staff met with the key staff with the Placer County Water Agency. It was an incredible meeting, with lots of opportunity for collaboration and cooperation!
- The City's Systems Committee has amazing leadership in Samantha Davis and John Rogers. This week they brought their overall broadband modernization strategy for our City facility service. Their insight and strategic planning on all

of this are an important indication of the quality internal leadership which is taking on tough and complex issues and charting a course for our future.

- Staff will begin a process for an All Committee/Commissions Dinner and Workshop for mid to late summer. A chance to check in, learn about each group and get that lecture from the City Attorney about the do's and don'ts of being on a public agency body!

Finally, Police Appreciation week began on a horrible note with the murder of police officers Jimmy Inn (Stockton) and Luca Benedetti (San Luis Obispo) who were on calls for domestic violence and issuing a search warrant. Both left children less than a year old, loving families and devastated colleagues. An absolute tragedy and something which just breaks your heart.

In the almost 37 years of my career, I have had the privilege to work closely with our public safety personnel in practically all aspects of what they do. When I worked in Los Angeles County, I would ride along with the Sheriff's Department going to everything from gang fights, shootings, robberies to crazy bar scene riots. Typically, they would let me get out of the car and go see the action.

On domestic cases, it was different. On those calls, they would literally lock me in the car, tell me to stay down and if things got out of hand, to do my best to hide! It was because the domestic call is the most dangerous in all of law enforcement, the most unpredictable and the type that has dramatic swings in perceptions, attitudes and danger. For our police personnel, it is when they need to be at their best from being a marriage/family counsellor, fight referee to literally being ready to be in the most volatile situation of their life. Imagine being a 28 year old officer merging into a family disturbance with people you do not know, who could care less about anyone else, sprinkle in a lot of alcohol and a little methamphetamine and then pure adrenaline and anger. Then add a bloody spouse, crying/devastated children and the brother in law who just showed up to protect his sister. Just imagine!

Our police personnel deal with people in the worst moments of their lives and take on the most serious situations imaginable. Calling them heroes is an absolute understatement! They are the men and women who protect us and are put in split second decision making situations amidst chaos. They are society's first wave of defense from the unimaginable. They are the person sprinting to their car to get the teddy bear for the devastated child and calling in social services and the domestic resources to bring help.

Mostly, they are the ones who bring us all HOPE in our most difficult times. I would encourage people to celebrate the service of our police personnel, give thanks for all they bring to our communities and light a candle and say a prayer for the families of Officers Inn and Benedetti who gave the ultimate sacrifice in trying to protect us all.



Thanks,

John W. Donlevy, Jr., City Manager